

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 16, 2005

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Joint Resolution

No. 24

Introduced by Assembly Member Calderon

May 11, 2005

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 24—Relative to Ryan White CARE Act.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 24, as amended, Calderon. Ryan White CARE Act reauthorization.

This measure would urge the Congress and the President of the United States to expeditiously reauthorize the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, In California, as of January 1, 2005, more than
2 136,198 individuals have been infected with the expanding
3 pandemic known as acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
4 (AIDS) and more than ~~36,795~~ 35,945 individuals have been
5 infected with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV); and
6 WHEREAS, The State of California created an Office of
7 AIDS within the State Department of Health Services to
8 proactively address issues relating to the HIV and AIDS; and
9 WHEREAS, Pursuant to Section 100119 of the Health and
10 Safety Code the Office of AIDS has lead responsibility for
11 coordinating state programs, services, and activities relating to
12 HIV and AIDS; and
13 WHEREAS, The mission of the Office of AIDS is to assess,
14 prevent, and interrupt the transmission of HIV and provide for

1 the needs of infected Californians by identifying the scope and
2 extent of HIV infection and the needs which it creates, and
3 disseminating timely and complete information; to assure
4 high-quality preventive, early intervention, and care services that
5 are appropriate, accessible, and cost effective; to promote the
6 effective use of available resources through research, planning,
7 coordination, and evaluation; and to provide leadership through a
8 collaborative process of policy and program development,
9 implementation, and evaluation; and

10 WHEREAS, This office directly administers the expenditure
11 of federal and state funds to combat the disease; and

12 WHEREAS, For many, the progression from HIV to an AIDS
13 diagnosis has slowed considerably as a result of these therapies;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, It is estimated that more than 57,021 California
16 residents are currently living with AIDS, 15 percent of the
17 nationwide total of 405,926; and

18 WHEREAS, It is estimated by the Centers for Disease Control
19 and Prevention that there are 40,000 new HIV infections
20 ~~annually in the United States and that California accounts for~~
21 ~~one-fifth, or 8,000, of these infections; and annually in the~~
22 ~~United States; and~~

23 WHEREAS, Approximately one-third of Californians with
24 HIV disease are unaware of their diagnosis and tens of thousands
25 of individuals know they are HIV-positive but are not receiving
26 care regularly; and

27 WHEREAS, The number of annual AIDS deaths in California
28 dropped 51 percent between 1996 and 1997; however, between
29 1997 and 1998, deaths dropped by only 27 percent. The number
30 of annual deaths among AIDS cases has declined each year since
31 its 1994 peak. The number of deaths in 1997 was about one-half
32 that of 1996, and since 1997 the number has remained in decline,
33 *except for 2001*, though the rate of decline has decreased; and

34 WHEREAS, HIV/AIDS in California has a significant impact
35 on communities of color, gay and bisexual men, and women, as
36 well as low-income and other underserved communities; and

37 ~~WHEREAS, As many as one-half of new HIV infections occur~~
38 ~~in people under the age of 25 years; one in four are in young~~
39 ~~people under the age of 22 years; and~~

1 *WHEREAS, In California, individuals diagnosed before the*
2 *age of 29 years comprise 26 percent of cumulative HIV cases;*
3 *and*

4 WHEREAS, Increasingly, some individuals with HIV disease
5 have also been diagnosed with substance abuse or mental illness;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Substance abuse is a factor in well over 50
8 percent of new HIV infections in some cities; and

9 WHEREAS, California looks to the federal government to
10 assist the state in meeting the expanding health care and social
11 service needs of people living with HIV disease; and

12 WHEREAS, The Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS
13 Resources Emergency (CARE) Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 300ff et seq.)
14 was first adopted by the Congress in 1990; and

15 WHEREAS, The Ryan White CARE Act was reauthorized in
16 1996, and again in 2000.

17 WHEREAS, The Ryan White CARE Act expires on
18 September 30, 2005; and

19 WHEREAS, Since its inception, the Ryan White CARE Act
20 has ensured the delivery of medical care and treatment as well as
21 essential support services to tens of thousands of Californians
22 including medical examinations, laboratory procedures and
23 evaluations, drug therapy, dental care, case management, home
24 health and hospice care, transportation, housing, legal assistance,
25 benefits education and assistance, treatment education and
26 adherence, nutrition therapy, and mental health and substance
27 abuse counseling; and

28 WHEREAS, Under federal law, the services provided under
29 the Ryan White CARE Act are for the provider of last resort;
30 therefore, the act is recognized as a critical safety net program for
31 low-income, uninsured, or underinsured individuals; and

32 WHEREAS, The federal budget for the 2005 fiscal year
33 contains increased funding for the Ryan White CARE Act, a
34 significant portion of which is dedicated to California; and

35 WHEREAS, Title I of the Ryan White CARE Act currently
36 provides emergency assistance to the 51 United States
37 metropolitan areas most heavily impacted by the AIDS epidemic,
38 of which nine are in California, the most in any state; and

39 WHEREAS, The Ryan White CARE Act has enabled local
40 communities receiving Title I funding to tailor the delivery of

1 services that best meet the needs of their residents who are
2 affected by HIV/AIDS; and

3 WHEREAS, California receives funding under Title II of the
4 Ryan White CARE Act for care and treatment and social
5 services, a significant portion of which pays for life-extending
6 and life-saving pharmaceuticals under California's AIDS Drug
7 Assistance Program (ADAP); and

8 WHEREAS, Title III of the Ryan White CARE Act provides
9 funding to public and private nonprofit entities for outpatient
10 early intervention and primary care services; and

11 WHEREAS, Title IV of the Ryan White CARE Act has
12 focused on women, children, youth, and families, and has
13 increased access to medical care and support services for persons
14 under 25 years of age living with HIV or AIDS; and

15 WHEREAS, The Ryan White CARE Act Dental
16 Reimbursement Program (Title VI) reimburses eligible dental
17 schools and postdoctoral dental education programs for the
18 reported, uncompensated costs of oral health care to people
19 living with HIV; and

20 WHEREAS, The goal of the Ryan White CARE Act Special
21 Projects of National Significance (SPNS) Program (Title VI) is to
22 advance knowledge about the care and treatment of persons
23 living with HIV/AIDS by providing time-limited grants to assess
24 models for delivering health and support services, and SPNS
25 projects have supported the development of innovative service
26 models for HIV care to provide health and social services to
27 communities of color and hard-to-reach populations in
28 California; and

29 WHEREAS, A network of 14 regional AIDS Education and
30 Training Centers (AETCs), along with local performance sites,
31 were funded under Title VI of the Ryan White CARE Act; and

32 WHEREAS, These AETCs train clinical health care providers,
33 provide consultation and technical assistance, and disseminate
34 ever-changing information to health care professionals on the
35 effective management of HIV infection; now, therefore, be it

36 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*
37 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature affirms its support of the
38 Ryan White CARE Act, and urges the Congress and the
39 President of the United States to expeditiously reauthorize the
40 Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency

1 (CARE) Act in order to ensure that the expanding medical care
2 and support service needs of individuals living with HIV disease
3 are met; and be it further

4 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit
5 copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of
6 the United States, the Senate Majority and Minority Leaders, the
7 Speaker of the House of Representatives, the House Minority
8 Leader, the chairpersons and ranking minority members of the
9 Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, Appropriations,
10 and Budget Committees, to the chairpersons and ranking
11 minority members of the House Commerce, Appropriations, and
12 Budget Committees, and to each Senator and Representative
13 from California in the Congress of the United States.

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